

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: August 27, 2014 CONTACT: Patsy Green PHONE: 504.838.5550

## SENATOR CONRAD APPEL TO HOST TOWN HALL MEETING TO DISCUSS VETERANS AFFAIRS ISSUES

## WILL BE JOINED BY LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND THE SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

District 9 State Senator Conrad Appel (R – Metairie) is hosting a town hall meeting in the area to discuss ongoing issues concerning veterans and their health care.

Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs (LVDA) Secretary David La Certe and Deputy Director Jimmy Murphy of the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (SLVHSC) will join Senator Appel. All veterans and interested citizens are invited to attend to discuss their experiences and concerns about the VA and the VA Healthcare System.

## JEFFERSON PARISH VETERANS AFFAIRS TOWN HALL

Wednesday, September 3, 2014
6:00 PM
Eastbank Jefferson Parish Council Chambers
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Yenni Building | 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd.
Harahan, LA 70123

"I am pleased to join LDVA Secretary David LaCerte and SLVHSC Deputy Director Jimmy Murphy in their efforts to ensure Louisiana veterans' voices are heard and in their attempts to encourage our state and nation to give veterans the care they deserve," says Senator Appel.

United States Secretary of veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald recently directed all VA healthcare facilities to improve communication and hear directly from veterans nationwide.

"Secretary LaCerte has been proactive in creating opportunities for veterans to engage in two-way conversation with VA officials and I am happy to partner with him in bringing this opportunity to the veterans in my community," Sen. Appel added.

Additionally, representatives of Judge John Molaison and Judge Ellen Kovach from the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court in Jefferson Parish will be in attendance to discuss plans for their new Veterans Treatment Court.

"I am grateful to Senator Appel for arranging this town hall meeting so that our veterans and their families have an opportunity to come together to share their experiences, both good and bad, with the federal VA healthcare system," says David LaCerte, Secretary of Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs. "Only after we shine light on these issues will we be able to find real solutions to the VA healthcare crisis so that veterans can begin to get the care they deserve."

If you would like more information on this event, or to schedule an interview with Senator Appel, please contact Patsy Green at **504-838-5550** or e-mail at **appelc@legis.la.gov**.

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